

# RECKLESS RALPH'S

## DIME NOVEL ROUND-UP

A monthly magazine devoted to the collecting, preservation and literature of the old-time dime and nickel novels, libraries and popular story papers.

Published by Ralph F. Cummings, Box 75, Fisherville, Mass., U. S. A.

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### NEWSY NEWS

by Ralph F. Cummings

Bill Langell, c/o Spring Hill Tavern, 2890 Bodega Highway, Sebastopol, Cal. wants Old Cap Collier Library #137, Bill Poole. Who has a copy to sell him?

Ray Mengar, 727 Third Ave., San Diego, Calif., has the first four numbers of the American Mercury, Nos. 1 to 4, in nice condition, to trade for a few early issues of Liberty Boys of 76.

L. C. Skinner, 36 Chaplin St., Pawtucket, R. I. has 3 bound vols. of New York Ledgers in the 1860's, also old Railroad Mags, time tables, novels, Algiers, Hentys and what not to sell or trade. He will answer all letters, and hopes you will too.

P. J. Moran and son Robert, came in from Oakland, Calif. and stayed about a day and a half, Oct. 8th and 9th. Oct. 7th in the evening they visited with Clyde Wakefield, as I was out to a Pocahontas meeting.

Edward and Tilman LeBlanc from Fall River, Mass., were up, and met them. Sorry but Bro. Moran would like to have been able to visit some of the other fellows up this way, but his time was too short, so he gives his best regards to all.

Colliers Mag, for Oct. 15th has a nice writeup on Ray Caldwell and his collection of old timers—also picture of Ray in his den, surrounded by Frank Reade, Deadwood Dick, etc.

Comet Books, #30, "No Other White Men," is a fine story of the Lewis-Clark Expedition, and put out by Pocket Books, Inc.

See George Flaum's full page ad of

Pluck and Lucks. Now's the time to get them before they are all gone, and I understand it's one of the best lots he has had, in some time, so better get your order in soon's you get your Roundup.

Ye editor Cummings was out to the Redmans Annual Banquet at Boston, Mass., with Frank Henry, Clyde Wakefield, Tommy Funderberk and others. As poor Tommy had just had most of his teeth yanked out, I helped him out, by eating his chicken for him, as ye editor wouldn't want to see it wasted, but Tommy took care of the ice cream. Frank Henry went up a notch from Great Junior Sagamore to Great Senior Sagamore of the Massachusetts Redmen. I spent the day, Saturday and Sunday with Don Learnard, and we went over to see Jack Neiburg.

Nov. 6th, Ed & Tilman LeBlanc, Eli Messier, Don Learnard and myself plan to call on Ralph Smith.

Tommy Funderburk, 14 Hollis St., Worcester, Mass. H. H. B. Member No. 185, was taken to St. Vincent's hospital, in this city for acute appendicitis. He was operated on soon's he got in there.

Don Learnard, 23 Russell Terrace, Arlington 74, Mass., has low numbers of Pluck & Lucks to trade for Liberty Boys of 76.

Buckskin Bill Randolph says that Street & Smith brought out 2 issues of Buffalo Bill Picture Stories, in comic magazine style, Nos. 1 and 2. No. 2 was the last number, for June and July, Aug. and Sept., 1949.

Inside picture on title page is from the front cover of a Buffalo Bill Stories. A very good job, but too bad they

couldn't keep it up. They sold for 10c per copy. Bill wrote to the publishers as follows, and they wrote back, thus, Dear Sir:

Under separate cover, we are mailing you a copy of Buffalo Bill Picture Stories Vol. 1 No. 1, with our compliments. It has been decided to suspend this publication with No. 2 for the time being. This means you will have only two numbers published to date.

Very truly yours,

Street & Smith Publications Inc., P. O. Box 489, Elizabeth, N. J. Distribution and Sales Dept. (775 Lidgerwood Ave.) So this must be their new address for comic book material?

The American Legion Mag. for November, has a slug of 19 lines on page 40 about our old novels, and such collectors as Charles Bragin and Clarence Orser, very interesting. It's the tail end of 3 full page articles on pages 16, 17 and 39. "How to Go Treasure Hunting At Home," with illustrations, real interesting, and by Frank Rasky.

Joseph Krajic, 1201 Dueber Ave., S. W., Canton 6, Ohio, nearly wrecked himself early in 1948 when in a dull moment, he went to grave digging, and landed in the hospital for 5 operations. He was broken physically, spiritually, and financially, so as to pay his doctor and hospital bills, he had to sell his home, furniture, books and novels. In February of this year he went back to work, and says he feels better than he has for many years. Now he is starting to buy a few novels for reading purposes, so if any member has any small Fame & Fortunes or Young Wild West, drop him a list. He sure has had a very tough time of it, and we wish Joe all the best of luck from now on.

Who ever heard of Frank Tousey's Illustrated War News? I never did, nor any one else, I guess. I just landed Vol. 1 No. 1, May 1898. Price 10c. 16 pages of news and pictures. Front and back pictures colored, size 11½x16½ inches. Only sad part is that there's 4 pages missing, even so, it's a prize just the same.

Des Moines Sunday Register, Des Moines, Iowa, newspaper, had a fine writeup on "Coomes Tales Now Collected," in the Oct. 9th issue, and well illustrated. Tomorrow Mag, for April 1949, had a fine article of "From Dead-

wood Dick to Superman," with illustrations of novels.

Notes from Wm. J. Benners note book:

W. F. Mott was a writer of pot boilers. He kept a serial running for 10 years in the story paper called Saturday Night. It is believed he was the highest paid writer of his day. The publishers of Saturday Night paid him \$1000.00 for his serials. Some of his nom de plumes were Walter Fenton, Kerry Blair and Old Sleuth. He also wrote under stock names of the publishers for Sensational publications. He wrote himself to death, thinking he'd be on his feet, and to find time to do good work, alas—when the time came, he was worn out, too weak to work any longer. He died in 1901, in Phila., Pa., after a very serious illness lasting four years. He was 51 when he died. Some of the serials he wrote in Saturday Night were Kerry Blair's Pledge, the Indian Monte Cristo, The Diamond Trial, Kerry Blair's Death Gauntlet, 100 Years a Secret, Kerry Blair Oath Bound and many others, and all stories were well illustrated too.

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155. H. P. Palmer, 35 Hillside Ave., Mt. Kisco, N. Y. Died March 10th.
- Mrs. Marie L. Bendig, 1122 So. 48th Stt., Phila., Pa. Died March 19th.

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**P. & L. at \$1 each:** 31 32 35 63 117 118 125 145 199 205 229 244 252 291 338 343 353 356 358 364 366 376 400 403 404 405 408 411 413 416 417 419 421 423 424 427 431 434 435 436 438 442 444 445 447 448 449 452 453 454 456 457 458 459 463 465 466 468 469 470 472 474 475 477 479 480 481 483 486 487 488 490 492 493 494 496 497 500 502 to 519 inclusive, 521 to 526, 528 529 530 533 534 535 537 538 539 540 542 543 544 546 547 548 551 to 560 inclusive, 563 to 571 573 575 to 580, 583 to 599 inclusive.

**P. & L. at 75c each:** 601 to 609 inclusive, 611 612 613 614 617 to 625 627 to 658 660 661 662 664 665 666 667 668 672 673 674 675 676 677 680 to 699 inclusive.

**P. & L. at 65c each:** 714 715 717 to 726 inclusive, 730 to 737, 739 to 749 inclusive, 751 752 754 758 759 761 763 770 to 780, 787 to 793, 796 797 798 799.

**P. & L. at 55c each:** 800 801 804 805 807 808 809 811 814 815 817 819 821 826 828 830 831 832 835 836 837 838 840 842 843 846 847 859 862 864 to 869 inclusive, 871 872 873.

**P. & L. at 3 for \$1:** (Reading only; poor) 204 267 320 407 443 462.

Will allow three dollars credit on any of the above for any Frank Reade Weekly Magazines in good condition. Remember that the majority of the P. & L. listed here are in very nice condition and that many collectors would ask much more for them.